

## REMARKS

### I. Status of the claims

Claims 1 to 14 are pending. Claims 15 to 17 have been cancelled without prejudice. Applicants maintain the right to prosecute the cancelled claims in any related application claiming the benefit of priority of the subject application. Accordingly, upon entry of this Amendment and Response, claims 1 to 14 are under consideration.

### II. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

The rejection of claims 15 to 17 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly indefinite is respectfully traversed.

Applicants submit that claims 15 to 17 would be clear to the skilled artisan. Nevertheless, solely in order to further prosecution of the application and without acquiescing to the propriety of the rejection, claims 15 to 17 have been cancelled herein without prejudice. Accordingly, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph is moot and Applicants respectfully request that it be withdrawn.

### III. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

The rejection of claims 15 to 17 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b), as allegedly anticipated by Chinese Patent No. CN 1125631 to Zhang et al. (“Zhang”) is respectfully traversed.

Applicants respectfully point out that claims 15 to 17 are directed to free base forms of polymeric biguanides and methods of producing polymeric biguanides in a free base form. Zhang fails to teach or suggest polymeric biguanides in a free base form or methods of producing polymeric biguanides in a free base form. Accordingly, claims 15 to 17 are not anticipated by Zhang under §102(b).

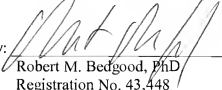
Nevertheless, solely in order to further prosecution of the application and without acquiescing to the propriety of the rejection, claims 15 to 17 have been cancelled herein without prejudice. Accordingly, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is moot and Applicants respectfully request that it be withdrawn.

IV. Conclusion

Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney for Applicants at the telephone number indicated below in order to expeditiously resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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